

**MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026, FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. IN CAMPUS COMMONS 2200**

Present: Elias, Levin, Mannello, Marchan-Martelle, Newman, Schuttler, Senbet

Absent: Brown, Haddad, McDuffie

Call to Order: 4:05pm

Approval of the Agenda: approved without objection

Approval of the Minutes from August 24, 2026: approved without objection

Announcements

Chair's Report (Newman) – Several things are coming up soon!

Senate Committee Reports

Academic Policies (Mannello) – At the first Academic Policies Committee meeting, the Internship Definition and the Awarding of Academic Credit policy and the revised S/U grading policy. The committee will continue working on AI resolution and language for the catalog. There will be future agenda items from the graduate council coming soon.

Codification (Schuttler) – Codification will reviewing the recently approved APC items.

Elections (Schuttler) – We are waiting for voting faculty list, once received the call for nominations will be distributed.

Faculty Welfare (Brown) – No report

Salary Equity (Senbet) – Salary Equity continued their discussion around brainstorming a compensation model. Members have an appetite and willingness to work through the issues and find a workable solution. Senbet shared that the current peer group does not include medical schools, which the committee will need further consideration of how peer groups should be determined and whether medical schools should be included. State funding was suggested as a potential comparison factor when identifying appropriate peer institutions. They also discussed significant salary gaps across areas and what could be done to address these disparities. The committee is looking at the bigger picture and made it a goal is to develop tools and a sustainable framework that will provide the new president with the information needed to establish priorities and determine compensation goals.

Standing Reports

Board of Trustees (Kyle) – No report

Interim President (Haddad) – No report

Provost (Marchand-Martella) – Provost Marchand-Martella had a call with other provosts regarding the three-year bachelor's degree. Surrounding states are beginning to have conversations about alternative degree pathways. The University of Denver currently offers a three-year bachelor's degree, primarily serving non-traditional students through a different credit structure. There is growing interest in exploring this option, though it has been clarified that the proposed model is not the same as the one that came up a couple of years ago and may need to be designated by a different name. The provosts expressed openness to learning more about the

concept given its distinct structure and potential implications. Preparations are also underway for the upcoming town hall.

Dean's Representative (Elias) – No report

Unfinished Business

New Business

- Summative Report from Senate Retreat
 - Provost Marchand-Martella raised concerns about inconsistencies in student evaluations, including differences in evaluation methods and rating scales.
 - It was emphasized that student evaluations should not be the sole factor considered in faculty evaluation.
 - The validity of the evaluations was another factor.
 - It was noted that the provost's office reviews other material during the faculty evaluations.
 - AI education was also identified as an important topic requiring strategic action.
 - Members shared the need to prepare students for workplaces increasingly requiring AI literacy while recognizing that faculty may need support and training to effectively integrate AI into their teaching.
 - Concerns were raised about faculty resistance and the potential perception that current faculty are being asked to teach something outside their expertise.
 - Strategic resource allocation, collaboration, and drawing on community members with AI experience were suggested as potential first steps.

Comments to the Good of the Order

Thank you, Oscar, for joining us!

Adjournment 4:56pm